

Ordinary Life

Identity and Destiny

God, who are you? God,
who am I?

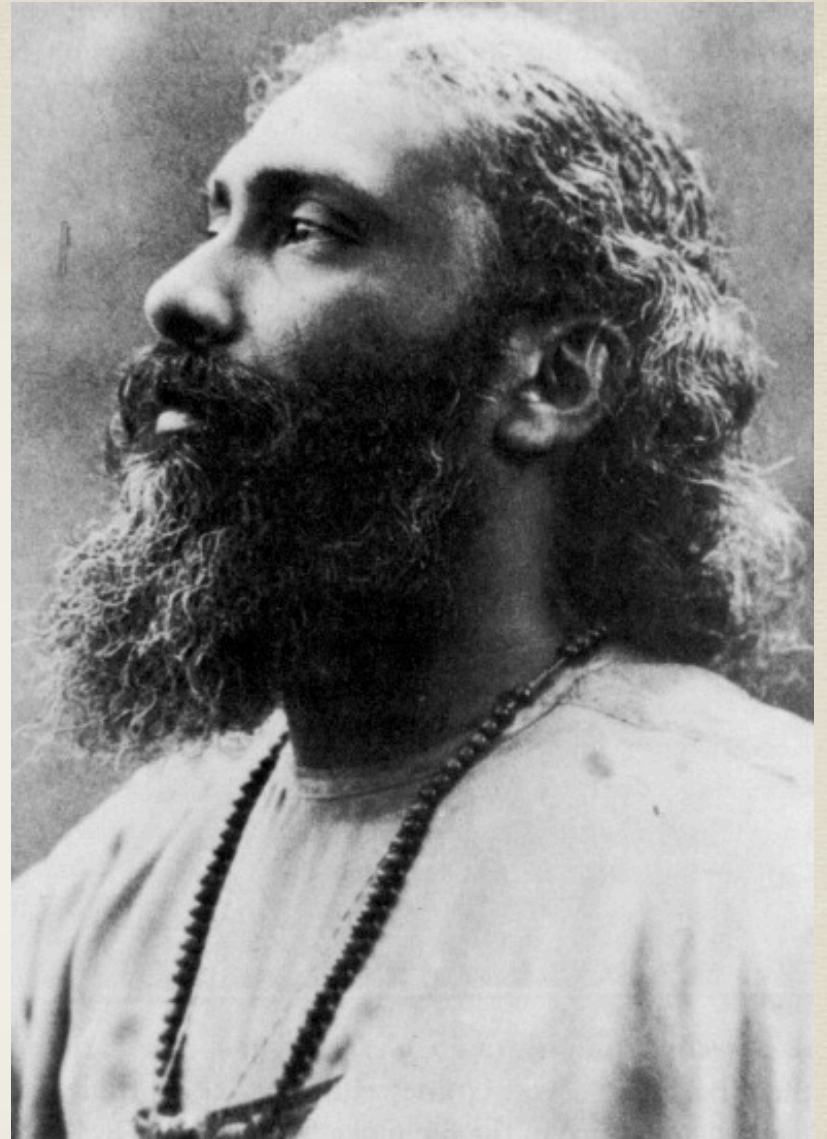
Who are we? How are
we to live?

peace, love, joy and patience

people committed to these
will transform the world

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Give me, Oh God,
Deep thoughts
High Dreams
Few Words
Much Silence
The narrow path
The wide outlook
The end in peace
Amen.



Hazrat Inayat Khan
1882 - 1927

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Tennessee Southern Baptists sever connection to church with a woman senior pastor

Can a church with a female pastor be Southern Baptist? The Tennessee Baptist Convention has said no.

The group of 390 churches in Tennessee debated 15 minutes before voting overwhelmingly November 14 to shun First Baptist Church in Jefferson City, Tennessee, for calling Ellen Di Giosia as senior pastor.

Earlier this fall, a 15-member committee tasked with credentialing messengers for the annual statewide gathering of Southern Baptist congregations declared that a church with a woman serving as senior pastor does not fit the definition of a “cooperating church” as defined by convention bylaws.

Di Giosia, who previously served as associate pastor of faith formation at Woodland Baptist Church in San Antonio, Texas, told worshippers that church leaders had received communication from the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board that if they sent messengers to the November 12–15 meeting in Hendersonville, Tennessee, those messengers would not be seated.



PHOTO FROM FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH WEBSITE

Ellen Di Giosia

There are two major blocks to people participating in the evolving spiritual transformation that is a part of our cosmos.

Organized religion and religious illiteracy.

The “rule of God” that Jesus taught is NOT a place to “get to.”

The “rule of God” is a place to come from.

People get their knowledge about
“the Christian religion” from -

Cultural osmosis

Exposure to various religious
organizations

Movies, television and novels



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A religion the mind rejects does
not offer a God we can give our
hearts to.

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The
“Original”
St. Nicholas
270 - 343



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Why were these stories
important to those who told
them?

What kind of stories are
they?

“fact fundamentalism”

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If we don't recover the mystical dimension of faith, if we don't embrace and inhabit the power of myths, if we don't embrace and live into the reality of cosmic evolution, not only does our religion not have much of a future but we cannot experience transformation or contribute to the transformation of the world.

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The human species is
creation becoming aware of
itself.

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Who is really king of the Jews, and to whom we could give our loyalty? What really is the path to peace on earth?

Political and military might? Or, possibly, love? What is the light of the world? Or, could be? Where is wisdom to be found? Where do we find fulfillment of God's dream for humanity?

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“Joy to the world!”

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